



Fact Sheet:



Alcohol and Drug Treatment for Adolescents

Background

In 1998, the Legislature enacted the Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Treatment and Recovery Program Act (Assembly Bill 1784, Chapter 866, statutes of 1998). Approximately \$5 million annually was designated to support comprehensive alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment for adolescents in California.

Adolescent Treatment Funding

Twenty counties were funded with Adolescent Treatment Program (ATP) funds based on an index of need indicators (adolescent deaths, hospitalizations, arrests, automobile collisions, and school incidents, related to adolescent AOD use.) The twenty counties are: Alpine, Glenn, sierra and Tehama (\$50,000 each annually); Humboldt, Imperial, Mendocino, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Sonoma (\$150,000 each annually); Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, San Bernardino, San Francisco, and Santa Clara (\$300,000 each Annually); Orange and San Diego (\$400,000 each annually); and Los Angeles (\$900,000).

Adolescent Treatment Services

The focus of the ATP varies from county to county depending on local need and priority. Generally, the new services include residential AOD treatment for adolescents in group home settings and juvenile detention facilities, AOD services for youth

transitioning into the community after discharge from such facilities, and adolescent AOD treatment services at school sites and other outpatient settings.

The programs recognize unique adolescent needs, provide for the safety of minors, and encourage family involvement. Increased collaboration with other youth and family service agencies is also a primary goal.

Project-Wide Evaluation

An independent contractor will be conducting an evaluation of the twenty county projects. A process evaluation will document and monitor the counties' progress in implementing new adolescent treatment models. The outcome evaluation will focus on a specific area or component to determine the effectiveness of that particular model of adolescent-specific treatment.

Adolescent Treatment Standards

The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs has established a multi-disciplinary workgroup to develop standards that can be applied not only to the current ATP project, but also to expansion of adolescent treatment throughout the state. Expected products include recommendations related to adolescent screening, assessment, and placement tools; appropriate treatment services for adolescents by specific populations (ethnicity, culture, age, developmental stage, secondary problems,

etc.); health and safety guidelines; and anticipated treatment outcomes for adolescents.